

A tall climber with ovoid, orange fruits, about 6 inches long. The numerous round, flat seeds are said to be rich in oil. (*Piper*.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 58554.

58584. MUSA sp. Musaceae.

From Nice, France. Seeds presented by Dr. A. Robertson Proschowsky. Received January 11, 1924.

A large number of the Muses are handsome ornamentals and are extensively cultivated in the warmer parts of the world for their gorgeous tropical effect. This unidentified species will be given a trial in the southernmost part of Florida.

58585 and 58586.

From Richmond, Victoria, Australia. Seeds presented by F. H. Baker. Received January 12, 1924.

58585. ACACIA JONESII Muell. and Maiden. Mimosaaceae.

A very handsome little shrub, native only to a small district of New South Wales, where it reaches a height of 2 to 3 feet, with a stem about three-fourths of an inch in diameter. The fine-cut foliage is a deep green, and the flower headlets are in simple racemes. (Adapted from *Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales*, vol. 8, ser. 2, p. 13.)

58586. INDIGOFERA AUSTRALIS Willd. Fabaceae.

An erect branching shrub 2 to 4 feet high, with very attractive compound leaves and dense or loose clusters of showy red flowers. It is very variable in regard to habit and foliage, and in its various forms is found almost throughout Australia, except in the Northern Territory. (Adapted from *Bentham, Flora Australiensis*, vol. 2, p. 199.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 56575.

58587. FICUS MYSORENSIS Heyne. Moraceae.

From Lal Bagh, Bangalore, India. Seeds presented by G. H. Krumbiegel, superintendent, Government Botanic Gardens. Received January 15, 1924.

A large, broadly spreading tree, native to the forests of the subtropical Himalayas from Sikkim eastward. The aerial roots are few, embracing the trunk, and the ovate, leathery leaves, which are prominently veined, are up to 8 inches in length. (Adapted from *Hooker, Flora of British India*, vol. 5, p. 500.)

58588. TITHONIA DIVERSIFOLIA (Hemsl.) A. Gray. Asteraceae.

From Manila, Philippine Islands. Seeds presented by P. J. Wester, Bureau of Agriculture. Received January 15, 1924.

I have just seen this perennial composite at its best, and it far surpasses my expectations as an ornamental. Clumps of it are a blazing mass of yellow, and the flowers often reach a width of 4 inches. These are produced in great abundance during the autumn and early winter months, and the plant therefore might be a good ornamental for Florida during the early winter season. (Wester.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 57093.

58589. GARCINIA MORELLA (Gaertn.) Desr. Clusiaceae.

From Dominica, British West Indies. Seeds presented by Joseph Jones, curator, botanic gardens. Received January 17, 1924.

In connection with the department's effort to establish mangosteen culture in the tropical American dependencies of the United States, several species of *Garcinia* have been tested as stock plants. The mangosteen, when grown on its own roots, is a delicate subject indeed, and it has been thought

grafting on more vigorous species might solve one of the difficulties in the way of its culture. *Garcinia morella* has shown promise as a stock plant, and the seeds under this number will be used to produce plants for further experimentation.

58590. FUNTUMIA ELASTICA (Preuss) Stapf. Apocynaceae.

Lagos rubber tree.

From Kisantu, Belgian Congo. Seeds presented by Frère J. Gillet. Received January 17, 1924.

The Lagos rubber tree is the most important source of rubber native to West Africa and is distributed throughout western tropical Africa from Sierra Leone to Cameroon, and also in British East Africa.

Introduced for rubber specialists.

58591. LANDOLPHIA DROOGMANSIANA Wildem. Apocynaceae.

From Kisantu, Belgian Congo. Seeds presented by Frère J. Gillet. Received January 18, 1924.

A giant creeper from the Belgian Congo which becomes over 300 feet in length, with a stem about 8 inches in diameter. The leathery, oblong-rounded leaves are about 5 inches long. This species yields an excellent rubber-producing latex. (Adapted from *Wildeman and Gentil, Lianes Caoutchoutifères du Congo*, p. 59.)

Introduced for testing by rubber specialists.

58592. HYDNOCARPUS ANTHELMINTHICA Pierre. Flacourtiaceae.

From Bangkok, Siam. Seeds presented by Dr. A. F. G. Kerr, director, botanical section, Ministry of Commerce. Received January 18, 1924.

The *maikrabao*, as this species is called in Siam, where it is native, is a vigorous, graceful tree 30 to 60 feet in height, with large leathery leaves up to a foot in length, pale yellowish above and shining green below. The rose-colored or purplish flowers are in few-flowered racemes, and the large, round fruits, about 3 inches in diameter, contain each about 80 oval seeds from which a fatty oil is expressed. In its physical characteristics and chemical composition this oil closely resembles chaulmoogra oil, which is used with great success in the treatment of leprosy. Like the true chaulmoogra oil (obtained from *Taraktogenos kurzii* King) this consists to a large extent of the glyceryl esters of chaulmoogric and hydnocarpic acids, and it may therefore be inferred that it possesses similar medicinal value.

Young trees of this species are doing well in Hawaii. The plant is likely to prove of value in that region as well as in tropical America.

58593. MARKHAMIA sp. Bignoniaceae.

From Untali, Rhodesia, South Africa. Seeds presented by Rev. E. H. Greely. Received January 23, 1924.

A native Rhodesian tree with yellow flowers 2 inches across. It resembles the central African species of *Spathodea*. (Greely.)

This is a genus of handsome tropical evergreen trees or shrubs, with large panicles of flowers which are usually yellow.

58594. VALLARIS HEYNEI Spreng. Apocynaceae.

From Allahabad, India. Seeds presented by W. B. Hayes, horticulturist, Allahabad Agricultural Institute. Received January 22, 1924.

A climbing shrub with fragrant, white flowers three-fourths of an inch wide, often cultivated as an ornamental in India, where it is native. It has milky juice which is used medicinally in its native country. The plant is introduced for the use of specialists engaged in rubber investigations.

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 53592.